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SUBJECT Effects of the June Mass Demonstrations
on the East German Railroads

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1. As a direct result of the incidents of 17 June 1953, 320 railroaders from East Germany (among them a few from East Berlin) had reported in to the Berlin Headquarters of the German Trade Union for Railroaders (Gewerkschaft der Eisenbahner Deutschlands) as of 1 July 1953. With about five exceptions, they all declared that they wished to return to East Germany as soon as things had quieted down a little. Over and above these railroaders, another hundred East German railroad employees reported in to the Railroad Union as refugees, during the month of June.
2. As of 1 July 1953, the strikes in the maintenance plants and the railroad construction plants were not completely over. Hundreds of railroaders were still not at their jobs, especially in the areas of Magdeburg, Halle, and Erfurt. This seems to be condoned by the doctors in the areas, and even official railroad doctors are certifying that the men must be confined to bed. Sick pay is 90 percent of normal salary for the first six weeks, so the men are not suffering financially. In these areas, 22 percent of the plant workers and maintenance men are on sick-call. Only the Railroad Maintenance Plant at Stendal (the largest) was prevented from joining in the strike. At the very beginning of the uprising, this plant, which employs 3,000 workers, was taken over by Russian tanks and infantry personnel. During the night of 17 to 18 June 1953, 18 employees of the plant were arrested by the criminal police at the instigation of the plant union management.
3. RBD Berlin suffered a loss of 960,000 DM (estimated income from S-Bahn) as a result of the June uprising.
4. Repair work along the rights of way and some of the new construction is suffering; in some cases the work had to be discontinued because of personnel shortages.
5. Between 25 and 27 June 90 Soviet T-34 tanks were loaded on flat cars in East Berlin for transport to Frankfurt/Oder, as follows:
 - 19 tanks loaded at Baumschulenweg
 - 21 tanks loaded at Schoeneweide Verschiebebahnhof
 - 50 tanks loaded at points between Gruenau and Koenigs-wusterhausen. (One tank was seen toppled over).

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